

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is provided an image processing method which can provide appropriate image property information in accordance with the operation mode, and

5 can realize a more preferable image process by arbitrarily switching the priority of image property information to be added. To this end, image data which contains first image property information for each predetermined unit is input from a scanner (1002), and

10 is segmented by a tile bus (1048). Each segmented data is compressed by a tile compression section (1047). Compressed image data is stored in a memory such as a RAM (1021) or the like. In this case, if the size of the compressed image data is equal to or larger than a

15 predetermined size, image data excluding first image property information is stored. On the other hand, when second image property information is designated by a UI (1032) or CPU (1006), and image data is output to be printed by a printer (1003), the second image

20 property information is set as image property information of image data expanded by an expansion section (1044) by an image property information substitution section (1058).